

See 4.01.2 You're
Stepping on My
Cloak + Dagger

CIA L.O.S Hall, Roger

19. Roger Hall. Norton, \$5.95

Mr. Hall, whose "You're Stepping on My Cloak and Dagger," about his O.S.S. experiences, is now in its 15th printing for Norton, has turned his attention to a fictional treatment of a spy ring *within* the C.I.A. It is all meant to be very, very funny and spoofing, and up to a point it is, but only up to a point. The private organization, called "19," is so secret nobody knows about its existence for sure, and when its members do marvelous things like catching Rudolph Abel and Kim Philby, they let others take the credit. It is all run by one man, a sort of Daddy Warbucks father-figure with unlimited funds, answerable to nobody but himself. He hires only well-educated white men from good family backgrounds. The narrator-hero is a handsome, brilliant, witty type, with a sex life that lives up to spy novel standards. Also on the scene is a black man motivated by a need to prove his superiority to all white men, who is out to uncover "19." In a final tasteless scene the black man's old mammy is called in to make him see Right. The assumption is that black men are just little children, waiting to be told what to do.